

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

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INFO JCS WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

USMNR SHAPE PRIORITY

USDELMC PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

CINCUSNAVEUR IMMEDIATE

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN IMMEDIATE

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES PRIORITY

DIRNSA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 9683

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, PFOR, GR, US

SUBJECT: U.S.-GREEK BASE NEGOTIATIONS: GREEK TRANSLATIONS OF
ENGLISH TEXTS

1. ON SEPTEMBER 13 FOREIGN MINISTRY LAWYER MACHERITSAS
DELIVERED TO U.S. DELEGATION GREEK TRANSLATIONS OF DEFENSE
COOPERATION AGREEMENT, COMMAND AND CONTROL APPENDIX AND STATUS
OF FORCES AGREEMENT APPENDIX. (EMBASSY WILL POUCH COPIES OF
ALL THREE TO DEPARTMENT SEPTEMBER 14--EUR/SE)

2. IN DELIVERING TRANSLATIONS, MACHERITSAS DISCUSSED
SEVERAL DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED IN THE TASK OF TRANSLATING
SOFA ARTICLE VII, PARAGRAPH I, INTO GREEK, AS FOLLOWS:

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(A) IN ABSENCE OF ANY EQUIVALENT IN GREEK FOR THE PASSIVE

VERB CONSTRUCTION "...OPERATED BY OR EXCLUSIVELY FOR..."
MACHERITSAS SOUGHT U.S. CONCURRENCE IN GREEK TRANSLATION
WHICH IS THE EQUIVALENT OF "SERVICE VEHICLES, VESSELS AND
AIRCRAFT OF OR FUNCTIONING EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE U.S. FORCES."
WE REGARD THIS AS AN ACCURATE ENOUGH RENDITION OF THE ENGLISH
THAT ITS DEPARTURE FROM A LITERAL TRANSLATION IS ACCEPTABLE.

(B) THERE APPARENTLY IS NO WORD FOR "DUES" IN GREEK AND IN THE
OFFICIAL GREEK TRANSLATION OF THE NATO SOFA "DUES" IS SUBSUMED
WITHIN "DUTIES", BOTH BEING TRANSLATED BY THE WORD
DHASMI. IN THIS CASE, WE PERCEIVE NO DIFFICULTY IN REPEATING
THE RENDITION OF THE NATO SOFA.

(C) "FEES" AND "CHARGES" ARE BOTH TRANSLATED INTO GREEK WITH
THE WORD "TELOS." THUS, GREEK ACCEPTANCE OF THE PREVIOUSLY
AGREED FORMULATION (WHICH WOULD TERMINATE ARTICLE VII, PARA 1,
WITH THE WORDS "...DUTIES AND FEES.") WOULD, IN THE GREEK VIEW,
PRECLUDE THEIR APPLICATION TO U.S. VEHICLES, VESSELS AND AIRCRAFT
CHARGES FOR SERVICES RENDERED. THEREFORE, MACHERITSAS SET
FORTH THE GREEK DESIRE EITHER (1) TO TERMINATE THE SENTENCE
AFTER THE WORD "DUTIES" OR (2) TO TERMINATE THIS SENTENCE WITH
THE WORDS "FEES AND CHARGES, EXCEPT THOSE FOR SERVICES RENDERED."
WE EXPLAINED THAT THE QUESTION OF FEES AND SERVICES WAS ONE
WHICH CLEARLY WOULD HAVE TO BE REFERRED TO WASHINGTON, AND
WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING GUIDANCE AT WASHINGTON'S EARLIEST
CONVENIENCE.
KUBISCH

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